

memorandum

National Nuclear Security Administration
Los Alamos Site Office
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

DATE: JAN 30 2003

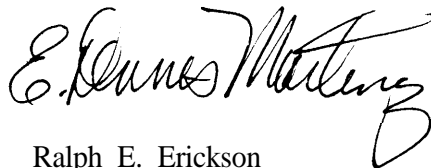
REPLY TO
ATTN OF: FO:EW

SUBJECT: Transmittal of 2003 Annual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Planning Summary

TO: Beverly Cook, EH-1, HQ/FORS

Attached is the Annual NEPA Planning Summary for 2003 for the Los Alamos Site Office, as required by Section 5.a.(7) of DOE Order 45 1.1B. The planning summary includes the status of ongoing NEPA compliance activities and a projection of environmental assessments for the next 12 months and environmental impact statements for the next 24 months. Cost and schedule information, where available, is included for each project.

If you have any questions about this annual NEPA report, please direct them to Elizabeth Withers, NEPA Compliance Officer, at (505) 667-8690.


for: Ralph E. Erickson
Manager
Los Alamos Site Office

Attachment

cc w/ attachment

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2003 ANNUAL NEPA PLANNING SUMMARY LOS ALAMOS SITE OFFICE

Expected Environmental Impact Statements Within Next 24 Months

Ongoing EISs at LASO

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) Building Replacement Project

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on July 23, 2002 (67 FR 48 160). The public scoping ended on August 31, 2002. Public scoping meetings were conducted on August 13 in Pojoaque and on August 15 in Los Alamos. The EIS will analyze the environmental impacts that could result from the consolidation and relocation of mission critical chemistry and metallurgy research capabilities at LANL from aging facilities at the current CMR Building in TA-3.

Several alternatives will be analyzed in the EIS: (1) Relocate CMR capabilities from TA-3 to new facilities in TA-55 near the existing Plutonium Facility (Proposed Action); (2) Relocate CMR capabilities from TA-3 to new facilities built on undisturbed land in or near TA-55; (3) Retain limited office functions and light laboratory operations at the existing CMR facility and move analytical chemistry and materials characterization capabilities to new facilities in or near TA-55; and (4) Continue CMR mission activities at the current location and do not construct new facilities (No Action Alternative). The draft EIS is tentatively scheduled for release for public comment in April 2003. This EIS would evaluate the impacts associated with the construction and operation of a new facility to replace the existing and aging CMR Building at LANL. Alternatives to the Proposed Action would include the No Action alternative and the potential to construct and operate a CMR-type of facility at other potential DOE sites.

Schedule: EIS Determination: 6/27/2002
 NOI: 7/23/2002
 Scoping Meeting(s): 8/13-15/2002
 DEIS: 8/2003
 FEIS: 5/2004
 ROD: 7/2004

Cost: Estimated \$ TBD

Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on Stockpile Stewardship and Management for a Modern Pit Facility

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a supplemental programmatic EIS was published in the Federal Register on September 23, 2002 (67 FR 59577). The public scoping period ended on November 22, 2002. Public scoping meetings were held on October 8, 2002 in Amarillo, Texas; October 10, 2002 in Carlsbad, New Mexico; October 15, 2002 in Washington DC; October 17, 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada; October 24, 2002 in Los Alamos, New Mexico; and October 29, 2002 in North Augusta, South Carolina. This Notice is a major step forward in carrying out

recommendations to develop a modern capability to manufacture plutonium pits. Pit production was shut down in 1989 at the Rocky Flats Plant, and no pits have been produced since. The NNSA's strategy calls for a new facility to be in production by approximately 2020.

This Supplement to the Programmatic EIS will support two decisions: (1) whether to proceed with a Modern Pit Facility; and (2) if so, where to locate it. Five potential locations will be evaluated in the EIS: (1) Los Alamos National Laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico; (2) Nevada Test Site, north of Las Vegas, Nevada; (3) Pantex Plant at Amarillo, Texas; (4) Savannah River Site at Aiken, South Carolina; and (5) the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant at Carlsbad, New Mexico. The EIS will also evaluate the no-action alternative of maintaining current plutonium pit capabilities at LANL, and the reasonableness of upgrading the existing facilities at LANL to increase pit production capacity.

Schedule: EIS Determination: 5/31/2002
NOI: 9/23/2002
Scoping Meeting(s): 10/8-29/2002
DEIS: 5/2003
FEIS: 3/2004
ROD: 4/2004

Cost: Estimated \$ TBD

Proposed Relocation of Technical Area 18 Capabilities and Materials at the Los Alamos National Laboratory

The Proposed Relocation of the Technical Area 18 Missions and Capabilities final EIS was issued on September 20, 2002. Issuance of the Final EIS had been delayed pending a review by the NNSA Administrator. The preferred alternative in the draft EIS was changed to reflect the Nevada Test Site as the relocation site. The EIS evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts associated with the proposed action at the following DOE sites: (1) a different site at LANL in Los Alamos, New Mexico; (2) the Sandia National Laboratories site at Albuquerque, New Mexico; (3) the Nevada Test Site near Las Vegas, Nevada (the preferred alternative); and (4) the Argonne National Laboratory-West site near Idaho Falls, Idaho. The EIS also evaluates the alternatives of upgrading the existing TA-18 facilities and the No Action Alternative of maintaining operations at the current TAA-18 location.

A first ROD was issued on December 31, 2002. NNSA decided to implement the Preferred Alternative, which would relocate Security Category I/II missions and related materials to the Device Assembly Facility at the Nevada Test Site. This alternative includes facility modification and transportation of special nuclear materials and equipment required to support Security Category I/II missions. Regarding Security Category I/II/IV alternatives, NNSA has determined that additional studies are required and will issue a ROD on this set of missions later in 2003.

Schedule: EIS Determination: 4/5/2000
NOI (63 FR 25022): 5/2/2000
Scoping Meeting(s): 5/17-30/00

Public Hearings: 10/10-19/2001
DEIS: 8/17/2001
FEIS: 9/20/2002
First ROD: 12/31/2002
Second ROD: 2003

Cost: Estimated \$ TBD

Projected EISs at LASO

Programmatic EIS for Large-Scale Environmental Remediation Projects at LANL

This EIS would encompass those large-scale clean-up projects at LANL that would be expected to have significant environmental, safety, and health issues. Currently, LANL's Environmental Restoration (ER) Project has identified 12 major clean-up projects in its accelerated remediation plan. Nine of these projects are for material disposal areas (MDAs) where hazardous and/or radiological wastes have been buried in shafts, pits, and trenches on mesa tops at LANL. The other three sites include an inactive firing site, a PCB container surface disposal area, and an outfall where the byproducts of high explosives manufacturing were disposed. RCRA Facility Investigations (RFIs) have been completed for most of these sites. Each of these sites is scheduled to undergo the complete corrective action process, including Corrective Measures Study (CMS) and Corrective Measures Implementation (CMI). The EIS would analyze potential environmental effects, identify potential remediation technologies, and identify environmental impacts to be addressed in a Mitigation Action Plan.

Schedule: EIS Determination TBD
NOI TBD
Scoping Meeting(s) TBD
DEIS TBD
FEIS TBD
ROD TBD

Cost: Estimated \$ TBD

Expected Environmental Assessments Within Next 12 Months

Ongoing EAs at LASO:

EA for the Proposed Consolidation of Cer-twin Dynamic Experimentation (DX) Division Activities at the Two Mile Mesa Complex

A determination was made on June 6, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal includes consolidating DX Division activities at Technical Area (TA) 22, constructing new buildings in TA 22, building a new entrance gate from State Road 501 into the DX Division at TA-69, and decontaminating and demolishing several existing structures utilized by DX Division in various TAs. Many of the DX Division buildings and support structures were constructed in the 1950s. The buildings and support structures have

exceeded their design life and are expensive to maintain. Operations would remain essentially unchanged but would be consolidated in one area for enhanced efficiency. There are potential concerns with cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, and human health effects associated with the proposed actions.

Schedule: Management and Review (M&R) Team Selected: 9/18/2002
Draft EA: 2/2003
Final EA and FONSI: 3/2003

cost: Estimated \$85K

EA for the Proposed Renovation of Building 55-41 and the Subsequent Installation and Operation of Radiographic Equipment Therein

A determination was made on March 22, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal would require considerable renovation of Building 55-41, which was constructed in the 1980's as the Nuclear Material Storage Facility and was never operated as intended. No radioactive material has been stored in the building and its only use has been for office space and equipment storage. The proposed renovations would accommodate x-ray generator and associated support equipment needed to perform non-destructive examinations of nuclear assemblies and components. Waste generation, human health issues, and cumulative effects are concerns in the analysis of this proposed action.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 8/15/2002
Draft EA: This EA is currently on hold.
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

cost: Estimated \$80K

EA for the Proposed Establishment and Maintenance of Certain Hiking Trails and Closing and Reclamation of Certain Other Hiking Trails Within the Boundaries of LANL

A determination was made on March 22, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. LANL workers have used trails within some portions of the facility since its inception; for recreation and exercise and to move between job sites. The general public has also used some trails within LANL for unregulated hiking over the years. Several trail segments are on remnants of historic wagon roads or aboriginal footpaths that may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, since the Cerro Grande fire in May 2000, the threat of flash flooding has resulted in the summer closure of certain trails that access the canyon bottoms. Because of these and heightened security concerns at LANL since September 11, 2001, NNSA believes it is now timely to consider the issue of public and worker foot traffic along trails within LANL boundaries.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 9/24/2002
Draft EA: April 1, 2003
Final EA and FONSI: May 30, 2003

Cost: Estimated \$100K

EA for the Proposed Lease of Land to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for a New Distribution Center at LANL

A determination was made on November 20, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal is to consider leasing land to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for the development and operation of a new County distribution center within the boundaries of LANL. The distribution center would include a storage facility and office area. The center would be located at the southwest corner of the intersection of East Jemez Road (also known locally as the "Truck Route Road") and State Road 4.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 12/10/2002
Draft EA: April 30, 2003
Final EA and FONSI: June 30, 2003

Cost: Estimated \$80K

EA **for** the Proposed Los Alamos County Landfill at LANL

A determination was made on November 26, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal is considering the issuance of a Special Use Permit to the Incorporated County of Los Alamos for the development and operation of a new, modern sanitary landfill within the boundaries of LANL. The landfill would serve Los Alamos County community users and LANL solid waste disposal needs. Public drop-off, recycling, compacting, and baling would occur at the existing LANL landfill site to reduce volume, litter and traffic at a new landfill. Compacted, baled waste would then be moved periodically by truck to the new landfill for final disposal.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 12/10/2002
Draft EA: April 18, 2003
Final EA and FONSI: June 20, 2003

Cost: Estimated \$85K

EA **for** the Proposed Remediation of the Material Disposal Area (MDA) H at TA 54 at LANL

A determination was made on December 16, 2002 to prepare an EA for the proposed action in compliance with NEPA. The proposal is for the remediation of Material Disposal Area (MDA) H at Technical Area (TA) 54. MDA H is an inactive waste disposal area that has been extensively studied and is ready to enter the final remediation phase under the RCRA Corrective Action Program. It will be the first remediation of a major MDA at LANL. MDA H is approximately 0.3 acres in size and consists of nine 60-ft-deep shafts used between 1960 and 1986 for the disposal of security-classified solid-form waste generated by LANL. Several alternatives will be considered ranging from site stabilization and monitoring to complete removal.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: 12/20/2002
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated \$86K

Projected EAs at LASO:

Construction of a New Storage Area for Special Nuclear Material at TA-55

This effort is proposed as a task that is part of phase two future needs identified within S Division's Project 455. It supports PIT manufacturing and is part of a Laboratory-wide denial strategy. NMT Division is currently driving the project, with S Division support. This effort may become an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement depending on the information currently developing.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: TBD
Draft EA: TBD
Final EA and FONSI: TBD

Cost: Estimated \$11.0K

Supplement Analysis for Access Controls Project and Transportation Improvements at LANL (Security Perimeter Roads)

A supplement analysis, along with supporting biological and cultural studies, will be prepared to determine if a proposal to relocate East and West Jemez Roads near TA-3 is within the bounds of the effects analyzed in recent environmental assessments including EA-1429: Access Control and Traffic Improvements at LANL. This will result either in a decision to issue a finding that the proposed action is within the bounds already analyzed, or to prepare a supplemental EA.

Schedule: Completion by April 30, 2003

Cost: Estimated \$70K

EA for Waste Management Facility Strategic Plan

The Waste Facilities Management (WFM) Group developed a Facility Strategic Plan that was reviewed and approved by LANL management in September 2002. It addresses radioactive and chemical waste facilities managed by the Waste Facilities Management Group (WFM) of the Facilities and Waste Operations Divisions. These facilities are located at TA-21, TA-50 and TA-54. The plan does not address waste facilities currently operated by other Divisions, but could in the future as some operations will transfer to FWO-WFM. There are 14 projects listed in the FWO Waste Management Facility Strategic Plan summary shown in the TYCSP. Projects include relocation of activities, consolidation, new facilities, relocation of a 115kV electrical power transmission line relocation, and site reconfiguration of the entrance to TA-54.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: October 2003
Draft EA: February 2004
Final EA and FONSI: April 2004

Cost: Estimated \$85K

EA for LANSCE Facility Strategic Plan

LANSCE Division developed a Facility Strategic Plan that was approved by management and submitted to DOE for LANL performance measures in October FY03. As stated in the FSP summary of the Ten Year Comprehensive Site Plan, LANSCE's vision is: "During the next ten years, the facilities in the LANSCE Division will be transformed into modern spaces that will enhance the production of protons and neutrons, and in doing so encourage closer interaction among all personnel, reduce operating costs, and incorporate environmental, safety, and security concerns into their design." To support the Ten Year Plan, the Division is developing a list of approximately 178 buildings as proposed excess space and 30 new projects that support the achievement of goals and vision. LANSCE recommends replacement of all transportables with permanent buildings, consolidation of new buildings in a manner that creates a campus environment around the central experimental area, replace transportainers with permanent storage buildings, and construct a visitor reception/badging/training facility outside the main gate to the site.

Schedule: M&R Team Selected: October 2003
Draft EA: February 2004
Final EA and FONSI: April 2004

Cost: Estimated \$85K